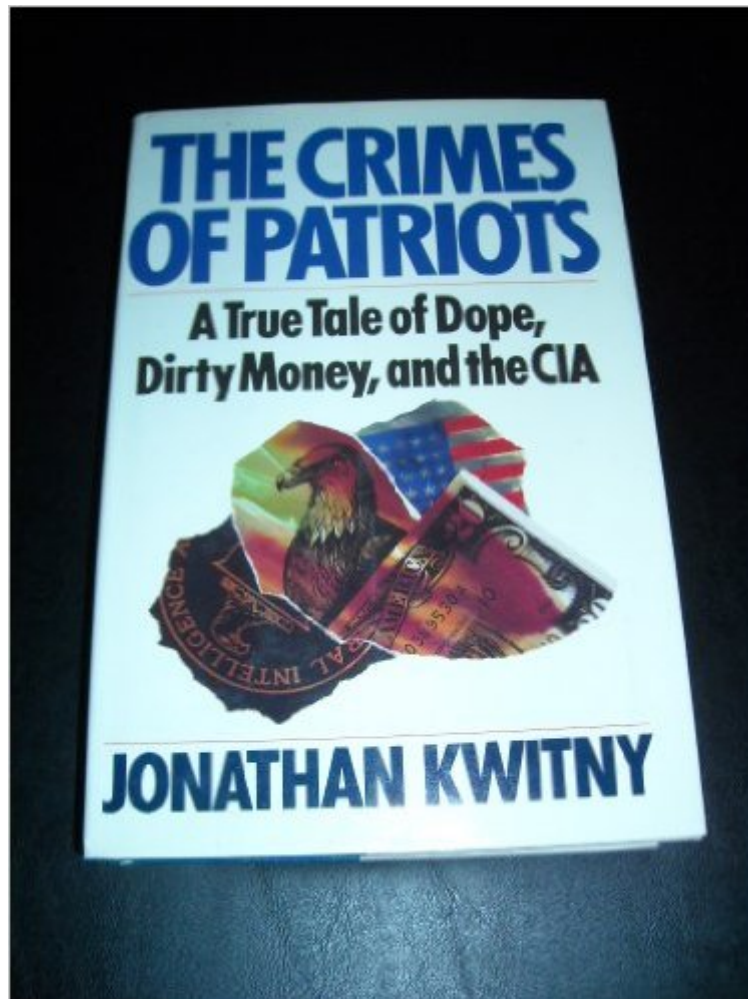


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The Crimes Of Patriots: A True Tale Of Dope, Dirty Money, And The CIA



Synopsis

The Crimes of Patriots will reveal how an obscure Australian bank, Nugan Hand Ltd., came to occupy the central position in a vast network of drug transactions, fraud, secret arms deals, and covert intelligence operations. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Book Information

Hardcover: 424 pages

Publisher: W W Norton & Co Inc (August 1987)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0393023877

ISBN-13: 978-0393023879

Product Dimensions: 1 x 1 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #927,716 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #74 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Australian & Oceanian](#) #9062 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > True Crime](#)

Customer Reviews

Michael John Hand was a Green Beret war hero, CIA operative in Laos and Vietnam, vice-chairman and half-owner of Nugan Hand bank (which he formed with Frank Nugan in Australia in 1973), and friend of drug runners and military officials. He and many of his associates were closely connected with Air America. Their bank was very close to criminals, dictators and their dirty money. After Nugan's death, Hand testified that it was all Nugan's fault, but he believed that his partner had been murdered. Hand revealed that the formerly wealthy business was now insolvent. After Nugan's death, Hand and "a team of former US military operatives in Southeast Asia" ransacked his office looking for incriminating files. Nugan joined up with Hand around 1970. During this period Hand spent a lot of time in Southeast Asia; he was known as a devout anti-communist. The Nugan Hand Bank was started in 6/1973, and was a prominent operation by 1975. Nugan Hand routinely violated Australia's laws restricting the export of capital from the country. The bank had great references from respectable firms, such as the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd., and even the US Commerce Dept. There were four major official investigations of Nugan Hand in Australia; "a royal commission that had been appointed to investigate drug trafficking, but that kept running into Nugan Hand and lacked authority and manpower on its own to open that huge can of worms." They faced

stonewalling by US authorities as well. William Colby, through his law firm Reid & Priest, did work for Nugan Hand and was apparently friendly with both men. The Bank never seemed to operate like a real bank, instead sucking in peoples' money and making it disappear.

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